



**FEMA**

## DISASTER NEWS

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### **DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER OPEN IN DEARBORN HEIGHTS**

**EAST LANSING, MI** -- Federal and State recovery officials have announced the opening of a Disaster Recovery Center to serve homeowners, renters and business people who have already called to register for assistance. The center is located in the Dearborn Heights Police Station in the 20<sup>th</sup> District Court Building at 25637 Michigan Avenue in Wayne County. It will be open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. until further notice. Additional centers will open in other areas soon.

“You are not required to visit a Disaster Recovery Center to get answers to your questions after you apply for disaster assistance. You can get further information by calling the FEMA Helpline, also at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**,” Federal Coordinating Officer Marianne C. Jackson.

State Coordinating Officer, Ralph J. Hobrat of the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division, explained, “You can visit whatever center is convenient regardless of where you live. Disaster experts at the centers can answer your questions about assistance, help you complete your U.S. Small Business Administration loan application and give you information about how to reduce future disaster damage.”

Recovery officials remind renters, homeowners and business owners who suffered damage or loss in the severe weather that occurred between May 20 and 24 to apply for assistance by calling the toll-free registration number, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, or TTY 1-800-4562-7585 for those with hearing or speech impairment.

**[NOTE TO EDITOR: A list of the 19 disaster-declared counties is available upon request.]**

*On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizen Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.*

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